

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 – 25. (CANCELLED)

26. (NEW) A method of inhibiting Fas-protein regulated apoptosis in a cell comprising administering to the cell one or more short interfering RNAs (siRNA) which modulates Fas-protein encoding gene expression, thereby inhibiting apoptosis in the cell.

27. (NEW) The method of claim 26, wherein the sequence of one or more siRNAs modulating human Fas protein expression comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17 and SEQ ID NO: 18.

28. (NEW) The method of claim 26, wherein said cell is a kidney cell.

29. (NEW) The method of claim 28, wherein said kidney cell is a tubular cell.

30. (NEW) The method of claim 26, wherein said cell is a cardiac cell.

31. (NEW) A method of treating or preventing ischemia-reperfusion injury in a subject comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of an RNA interfering agent targeting human Fas protein such that ischemia-reperfusion injury is treated or prevented.

32. (NEW) The method of claim 31, wherein the subject is at risk for ischemia reperfusion injury in an organ, wherein the RNA interfering agent is one or more siRNAs targeting human Fas protein, wherein the one or more siRNAs and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is administered to a blood vessel of the organ, wherein the one or more siRNAs targeting human Fas protein inhibits Fas-protein expression in cells of the organ thereby inhibiting Fas-protein mediated apoptosis in the organ and preventing ischemia reperfusion injury in the organ.

33. (NEW) The method of claim 31, wherein the sequence of one or more siRNAs targeting human Fas protein comprises a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17 and SEQ ID NO: 18.

34. (NEW) The method of claim 31, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

35. (NEW) The method of claim 31, wherein ischemia-reperfusion injury affects any of the organs selected from the group consisting of kidney, heart, brain, liver, gut and lung.
36. (NEW) The method of claim 31, wherein said subject is a human.
37. (NEW) The method of claim 31, wherein said siRNA is administered intravenously.
38. (NEW) The method of claim 37, wherein said siRNA is administered by repeated intravenous injection.
39. (NEW) The method of claim 31, wherein the individual in need of is an organ transplant donor or organ transplant recipient.
40. (NEW) A method of inhibiting Fas-protein mediated apoptosis in an organ in an individual in need thereof comprising administering to a blood vessel of an organ one or more siRNAs comprising a nucleic acid sequence targeting a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17 and SEQ ID NO: 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the siRNA inhibits Fas-protein expression in cells of the organ thereby inhibiting Fas-protein mediated apoptosis in the organ.
41. (NEW) The method of claim 40, wherein the organ is kidney.
42. (NEW) The method of claim 40, wherein the organ is heart.
43. (NEW) The method of claim 40, wherein the individual in need of is either an organ donor or an organ recipient.